

CLAIMS

Having thus described the aforementioned invention, we claim:

1. An apparatus for assisting in the coarse vertical adjustment of a jack, said jack including first and second tube members telescopically mounted relative to one another, the first tube member having a jack foot attached to a distal end and selectively engaging a supporting surface, the first tube member having a plurality of apertures spaced apart along the length of the first tube member and adapted for movement of one of the apertures of the first tube member into register with an aperture of the second tube member, and a jack pin adapted to engage and disengage with registered apertures of the first and second tube members, said apparatus comprising:

a connecting arm mounted to the second tube member; and

a lever arm pivotably connected to said connecting arm and having a distal end adapted to engage the jack pin for movement of the jack pin between engagement and disengagement with registered ones of the apertures of the first and second tube members.

2. The apparatus of Claim 1 further comprising

a guide tube attached to the second tube member; and

a flexible member routed through said guide tube, said flexible member having a grasping end and a connecting end attached to the jack foot, wherein a pulling force applied to said grasping end causes the jack foot to raise from the supporting surface when the jack pin is disengaged.

3. The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein said connecting arm is attached to the second tube by a clamping member.

4. The apparatus of Claim 3 wherein said clamping member includes a first half and a second half, said first half having a first connecting member, said second half having a second connecting member coaxially oriented to and slidably

engaging said first connecting member, said first half having a first aperture coaxially aligned with a corresponding second aperture, said first aperture and said second aperture receiving a fastener, wherein said fastener secures said first half and said second half to the second tube member.

5. The apparatus of Claim 3 wherein said clamping member includes a spacer adapted to fit between said clamping bracket and the second tube member.

6. An apparatus for assisting in the coarse vertical adjustment of a jack, said jack including first and second tube members telescopically mounted relative to one another, the first tube member having a jack foot attached to a distal end and selectively engaging a supporting surface, the first tube member having a plurality of apertures spaced apart along the length of the first tube member and adapted for movement of one of the apertures of the first tube member into register with an aperture of the second tube member, and a jack pin adapted to engage and disengage with registered apertures of the first and second tube members, said apparatus comprising:

a guide tube attached to the second tube member; and

a flexible member routed through said guide tube, said flexible member having a connecting end and a grasping end, said connecting end attached to the jack foot, wherein a pulling force applied to said grasping end causes the jack foot to raise from the supporting surface when the jack pin is disengaged.

7. An apparatus for assisting in the coarse vertical adjustment of a jack, said jack including first and second tube members telescopically mounted relative to one another, the first tube member having a jack foot attached to a distal end and selectively engaging a supporting surface, the first tube member having a plurality of apertures spaced apart along the length of the first tube member and adapted for movement of one of the apertures of the first tube member into register with an aperture of the second tube member, and a jack pin adapted to engage and disengage with registered apertures of the first and second tube members, said apparatus comprising:

10 a clamping member for attaching to the second tube;
11 a connecting arm attached to said clamping member;
12 a lever arm pivotably connected to said connecting arm and having a distal
13 end adapted to engage the jack pin for movement of the jack pin between
14 engagement and disengagement with registered ones of the apertures of the first
15 and second tube members;
16 a guide tube attached to the second tube; and
17 a flexible member routed through said guide tube, said flexible member
18 having a grasping end and a connecting end attached to the jack foot, wherein a
19 pulling force applied to said grasping end causes the jack foot to raise from the
20 supporting surface when the jack pin is disengaged.

1 8. The apparatus of Claim 7 wherein said clamping member includes a
2 spacer adapted to fit between said clamping bracket and the second tube.

1 9. The apparatus of Claim 7 wherein said clamping member includes a
2 first half and a second half, said first half having a first connecting member, said
3 second half having a second connecting member coaxially oriented to and slidably
4 engaging said first connecting member, said first half having a first aperture
5 coaxially aligned with a corresponding second aperture, said first aperture and said
6 second aperture receiving a fastener, wherein said fastener secures said first half
7 and said second half to the second tube member.

1 10. The apparatus of Claim 9 wherein said clamping member includes a
2 spacer having a spacer aperture that is coaxially aligned with and between said
3 first aperture and said second aperture, said spacer aperture receives said
4 fastener, said second tube member having a first side and an opposite second side,
5 said spacer adapted to bear against said first side when one of said first connecting
6 member and said second connecting member bears against said second side.

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1 11. An apparatus for assisting in the coarse vertical adjustment of a jack,
2 said jack including first and second tube members telescopically mounted relative
3 to one another, the first tube member having a jack foot attached to a distal end
4 and selectively engaging a supporting surface, the first tube member having a
5 plurality of apertures spaced apart along the length of the first tube member and
6 adapted for movement of one of the apertures of the first tube member into register
7 with an aperture of the second tube member, and a jack pin adapted to engage and
8 disengage with registered apertures of the first and second tube members, said
9 apparatus comprising:

10 a means for operating the jack pin at a first elevation, which is higher than a
11 second elevation measured at the jack pin.

1 12. The apparatus of Claim 11 further comprising a means for lifting the
2 jack foot by applying a force at a third elevation, which is higher than a second
3 elevation measured at the jack pin.

1 13. An apparatus for assisting in the coarse vertical adjustment of a jack,
2 said jack including first and second tube members telescopically mounted relative
3 to one another, the first tube member having a jack foot attached to a distal end
4 and selectively engaging a supporting surface, the first tube member having a
5 plurality of apertures spaced apart along the length of the first tube member and
6 adapted for movement of one of the apertures of the first tube member into register
7 with an aperture of the second tube member, and a jack pin adapted to engage and
8 disengage with registered apertures of the first and second tube members, said
9 apparatus comprising:

10 a means for lifting the jack foot by applying a force at a third elevation,
11 which is higher than a second elevation measured at the jack pin.

1 14. The apparatus of Claim 13 further comprising a means for
2 a means for operating the jack pin at a first elevation, which is higher than a
3 second elevation measured at the jack pin.

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